

I Love to Read 2025

MRA Statement:

Building Bridges

There are many links that can be made to this open-ended theme from Kindergarten to Grade 12. When we think about bridges, we notice how they link or connect one place to another, they allow for movement and freedom; they are built with supports and they support, and just like relationships they move in two ways or are reciprocal. When we think about supporting literacy, language and learning this theme can be extended even further with the idea of using story to connect us and bridge relationships, or kindness as a bridge to connections that can develop a sense of belonging and acceptance. Building these bridges can create connections across cultures, physical abilities, identities, generations, and communities. Most importantly these bridges can support the repair of relationships, help in the creation of new understandings and knowledge, as well as strengthen who we are as individuals.

Links Connected to Theme:

Link URL	Description	Connection
https://bookcentre.ca/bibliovideo	The Canadian Children's Book Centre	This is a great resource for book lists, blogs, videos, awards that are Canadian. Their mandate is to support, parents, librarians and educators to foster love of reading.
https://humanrights.ca/	Canadian Museum for Human Rights	Website has lots of resources, special area to note: stories
https://www.warmuseum.ca/dod/online-exhibitions	Canadian War Museum	Lots of great information about our military past but there are also interviews with veterans and programs that allow for live connections to your classroom.
https://pz.harvard.edu/sites/default/files/3-2-1%20Bridge_0.pdf	Project 0 Bridge Protocol	This is an interesting way of thinking about bridging our understanding over time. This link shows an example of its use. https://thinkingpathwayz.weebly.com/321bridge.html
https://www.michaelredheadchampagne.com/weneedeveryone	Book Trailer for We Need Everyone	This is a nice connection to community and using our gifts to help others. And it is nice to highlight a book from Portage Main and Press, who just sponsored our Summit.

Literature Suggestions:

Title	Author	Genre/Format	Connection
Be a Bridge	Latham/Waters	Picture Book	Could be a resource to explore how we can use kindness to bridge/connect people together.

All the Little Monsters: How I Learned to Live with Anxiety	David Alexander Robertson	Self- Help, Memoir	This book can bridge an understanding of what it is like to live with anxiety and it can support the building of community to help those who have anxiety.
Watercress	Andrea Wang/Jason Chin	Picture Book	A bridge book about intergenerational stories and how understanding our stories can help us to be empathetic and understanding.
Why We Dance	Deidre Havrelock Aly McKnight	Picture Book	About the history of the Jingle Dance and the connection to our history and culture
Autumn Peltier, Water Warrior	Author, Carole Lindstrom and Illustrator, Bridget George	Picture Book	Both texts focus on repairing relationships with the land and water, while strengthening (bridging) intergenerational understanding
Walking Together	Elder Dr. Albert D. Marshall & Louise Zimanyi Illustrated by Emily Kewageshig	Picture Book	
Felix Ever After	Kasen Callender	YA Fiction	From Stonewall and Lambda Award-winning author Kacen Callender comes a revelatory YA novel about a transgender teen grappling with identity and self-discovery while falling in love for the first time. (Goodreads)